USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 7

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Above average temperatures and only light precipitation during the week allowed farmers to harvest a great deal of both corn and soybeans, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. With the rapid harvest pace, some grain elevators are running at full capacity and may start limiting deliveries. Fall tillage is being done in many areas as the crops are harvested. Fertilizer and lime are also being spread. A few farmers are still cutting and baling hay in hopes of having enough in storage to last the winter.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.5 **days suitable for field work**. **Corn condition** is rated 50 percent good to excellent compared with 72 percent last year at this time. Ninety-four percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared with 82 percent last year and 87 percent for the 5-year average. Forty-four percent of the corn acreage has been **harvested** compared with 18 percent last year and 25 percent for the 5-year average. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 17 percent.

Soybean condition is rated 44 percent good to excellent compared with 75 percent last year at this time. Ninety-six percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 88 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-year average. Forty-nine percent of the soybean crop has been **harvested** compared with 16 percent last year and 37 percent for the 5-year average. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 11 percent.

Thirty-six percent of the **winter wheat** has been seeded at this time compared with 15 percent last year and 26 percent for the 5-year average. **Tobacco harvest** is now 91 percent complete compared with 81 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 7% good, 19% fair, 23% poor, and 51% very poor. Some farmers have been feeding hay due to inadequate pastures. Livestock remain in mostly good condition at this time.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Mature	94	88	82	87
Corn Harvested	44	31	18	25
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	96	90	88	93
Soybeans Harvested	49	26	16	37
Winter Wheat Planted	36	12	15	26
Winter Wheat Emerged	7	1	2	5
Tobacco Harvested	91	82	81	90

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	6	12	32	39	11
Soybean	8	14	34	37	7
Pasture	51	23	19	7	0

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	34	27	0
Short	39	34	2
Adequate	27	38	78
Surplus	0	1	20
Subsoil			
Very Short	41	37	1
Short	32	30	4
Adequate	27	33	80
Surplus	0	0	15
Days Suitable	6.5	5.3	4.6

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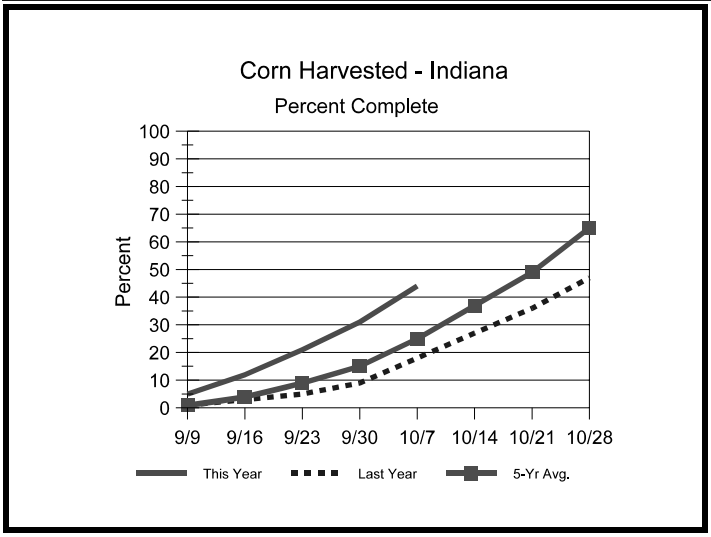
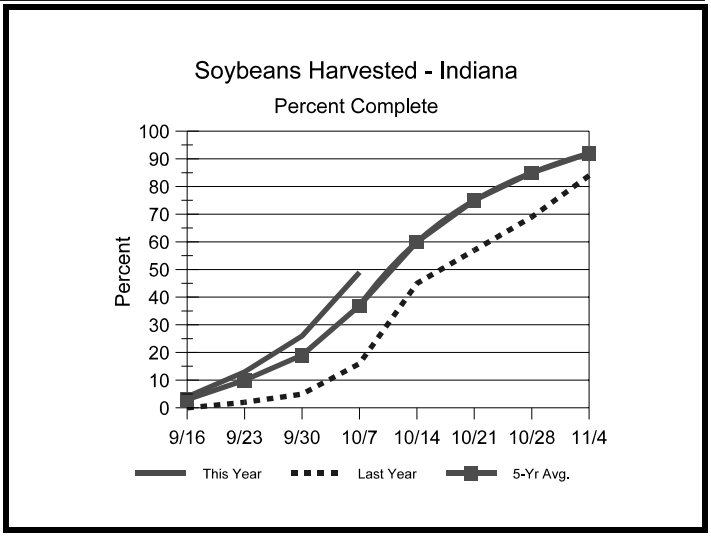
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Agronomist: Stunted Pastures Need Growth Spurt Before Grazing

October 2, 2007

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Many Indiana pastures could use a "Keep off the grass" sign.

Pastures that were battered by an April freeze, a hot, dry summer and potato leafhopper feeding might not be ready for livestock, said Keith Johnson, a Purdue University Extension forage specialist.

"In those areas where rain has fallen after it has been extremely dry, I would suggest producers not graze livestock on these pastures too quickly," Johnson said.

"It's going to be a temptation to have animals graze the first two or three inches of growth that is there, but it would be best for the long-term vigor and health of the forage to let it get some additional growth, if it can."

Johnson said he understands that some producers are anxious to get as much out of their forage crop as possible before temperatures turn colder. However, allowing livestock to graze weakened pastures could affect forage productivity next year. Johnson recommended producers wait until grass reaches an 8-inch height before sending animals out to graze.

Some producers seeded their pastures with sorghum-sudangrass and sudangrass as emergency or supplemental feed sources when forage shortage concerns intensified. Producers will need to keep a careful eye on those pastures, Johnson said.

"Within the sorghum family we have an issue of prussic acid poisoning," he said. "When we get a killing freeze there is the release of this cyanide-containing compound in the grass."

When released within freeze-damaged sorghum, prussic acid is concentrated in younger shoots or tillers. As grass height increases, the compound dissipates.

"I would suggest producers who have an acreage of sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass not make prussic acid an issue on the night of a freeze but, instead, utilize that grass so that prussic acid poisoning is not a concern," Johnson said.

"If for some reason the acreage is large and the livestock number is not, or if a freeze comes quickly, then what you can do to utilize this grass is make sure the plant is entirely dead. Let many days pass and make sure there is no regrowth that is occurring because that regrowth will be highest in prussic acid."

Hay harvest also poses challenges this fall, Johnson said. Harvesting alfalfa in early October could leave the crop vulnerable to regrowth problems should a killing freeze occur mid month. Johnson recommended producers wait to harvest alfalfa until after a few days of below-freezing temperatures take place.

"Preferably, the crop would be harvested as silage, as drying the crop to safe-to-bale moisture is difficult in late season," Johnson said.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday October 7, 2007

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
			Air Temperature		Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2007 thru October 30, 2007				
								Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	89	46	69	+11	0.57	3		20.69	-2.01	53	3363	+266
Francesville	88	51	69	+13	0.54	3		24.85	+1.82	59	3221	+384
Valparaiso_AP_I	88	47	69	+12	0.47	3		18.23	-6.61	49	3332	+503
Wanatah	89	44	67	+11	0.65	4	70	23.90	-0.05	61	3056	+360
Winamac	88	53	70	+13	0.39	3	66	24.46	+1.43	62	3261	+424
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	88	49	69	+11	0.67	4		29.57	+5.91	72	3160	+174
South_Bend	87	49	70	+13	0.61	3		24.18	+1.20	59	3388	+590
Young_America	89	53	71	+14	0.37	2		18.40	-3.94	60	3427	+491
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	88	51	69	+14	0.47	3	65	18.44	-3.97	67	3151	+481
Fort_Wayne	88	54	71	+14	0.26	3		21.95	+1.49	63	3433	+497
West Central(4)												
Greencastle	87	48	69	+10	0.35	1		20.00	-5.85	53	3411	+92
Perrysville	92	51	73	+15	0.57	2	76	17.47	-6.70	54	3755	+671
Spencer_Ag	88	48	70	+12	0.18	2		25.61	-0.25	53	3588	+480
Terre_Haute_AFB	88	51	73	+14	0.22	1		21.53	-2.87	50	3773	+480
W_Lafayette_6NW	90	52	70	+13	0.69	3	71	21.71	-1.03	61	3475	+551
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	89	55	73	+14	0.16	1		16.58	-6.18	55	3960	+697
Greenfield	88	53	70	+12	0.30	4		16.86	-8.00	68	3600	+461
Indianapolis_AP	89	56	74	+15	0.15	2		14.80	-7.96	53	4047	+784
Indianapolis_SE	89	51	70	+12	0.17	1		18.45	-4.78	56	3606	+348
Tipton_Ag	89	49	70	+14	0.49	4	70	18.59	-4.60	67	3371	+539
East Central(6)												
Farmland	89	45	68	+12	0.28	1	68	20.48	-1.99	63	3243	+479
New_Castle	89	49	69	+13	0.09	1		19.51	-4.29	49	3331	+498
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	90	59	76	+14	0.00	0		14.24	-8.77	48	4450	+665
Freelandville	88	57	73	+13	0.00	0		17.70	-6.26	51	4002	+599
Shoals	89	53	71	+12	0.00	0		19.32	-6.53	45	3759	+459
Stendal	90	61	75	+16	0.00	0		18.37	-7.31	53	4435	+871
Vincennes_5NE	90	49	73	+14	0.00	0	78	19.54	-4.42	54	4183	+780
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	89	53	72	+13	0.04	1		18.61	-7.41	61	4086	+810
Oolitic	88	48	70	+12	0.00	0	68	17.42	-7.33	45	3726	+578
Tell_City	89	59	74	+13	0.08	1		20.97	-5.31	43	4351	+688
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	89	48	71	+14	0.00	0		14.71	-9.24	42	3832	+844
Greensburg	90	55	73	+15	0.00	0		17.84	-6.35	50	3884	+826
Scottsburg	89	47	71	+12	0.09	2		20.81	-3.84	49	3907	+518

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com

Agronomist: Stunted Pastures Need Growth Spurt Before Grazing (Continued)

Another hay harvest issue involves corn stubble.

"There has been a lot of corn residue that has been, or will be, put into large, round hay bales," Johnson said. "A producer has to be extremely careful in the timing of the packaging of the bales to make sure the residue is dry. If we get a moisture content that's greater than 20 percent, mold formation could occur. So if mold forms within the corn residues in a large, round bale, you've taken a feedstuff that's not exactly of the highest quality anyway and made it even more suspect."

Producers with puny pastures should take steps this fall to improve them for 2008. Johnson urged producers to conduct soil tests on pastures that have not been tested in the past three to four years and follow up with lime and fertilizer applications, if necessary.

Some pastures with excessive damage might not be worth saving, Johnson said.

"Producers need to look at how bad their forage stands are," he said. "It might be time to consider starting with a new pasture. If that is the plan of action, then producers should look at what herbicides were applied to that land this year. If the plant-back restriction associated with the herbicide recommends you don't seed forages next April, then you could risk seedling death if you do."

This year's early-season freeze, midseason heat and drought, and insect problems significantly reduced forage yields in some parts of Indiana.

"I've been at Purdue 26 years as the forage Extension specialist and this has been one of the most challenging years I've seen for forage production," Johnson said. "Yield reduction for the first hay cutting was reported to be as high as 60 percent in some areas. Some producers experienced lower yields in subsequent cuttings, as well."

For additional forage tips, visit the Purdue Forage Information Web site at http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/forages/index.html.

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